

to buy a new home or repair an existing home by withdrawing money from their retirement plans without tax penalties.

The second provision is a one-year extension of a provision allowing disaster victims that have borrowed from their retirement account for disaster recovery to repay their own account without penalty.

The final provision is a 1-year extension of a provision allowing disaster victims whose banks cancel mortgage debt to not have the cancelled debt counted as taxable income. I urge my colleagues to help me in getting this important legislation enacted into law as soon as possible.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2815

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF SPECIAL RULES FOR USE OF RETIREMENT FUNDS.

Section 702(d)(10) of the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-343; 122 Stat. 3916) is amended—

(1) by striking “January 1, 2010” both places it appears and inserting “January 1, 2011”, and

(2) by striking “December 31, 2009” both places it appears and inserting “December 31, 2010”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN CANCELLATION OF INDEBTEDNESS INCOME.

Section 702(e)(4)(C) of the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-343; 122 Stat. 3918) is amended by striking “January 1, 2010” and inserting “January 1, 2011”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 358—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 12, 2009, AS “WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY”

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 358

Whereas 18 years ago, the Wreaths Across America project began an annual tradition, during the month of December, of donating, transporting, and placing Maine balsam fir holiday wreaths on the graves of the fallen heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas since that tradition began, through the hard work and generosity of the individuals involved in the Wreaths Across America project, hundreds of thousands of wreaths have been sent to national cemeteries and veterans memorials in every state and to locations overseas;

Whereas in 2008, wreaths were sent to 372 locations across the United States, as well as 24 sites overseas;

Whereas in December 2009, the Patriot Guard Riders, a motorcycle and motor vehicle group that is dedicated to patriotic events and includes more than 177,000 mem-

bers nationwide, will continue their tradition of escorting a tractor-trailer filled with donated wreaths from Harrington, Maine to Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas thousands of individuals volunteer each December to escort and lay the wreaths;

Whereas December 13, 2008, was previously designated by the Senate as “Wreaths Across America Day”; and

Whereas the Wreaths Across America project will continue its proud legacy on December 12, 2009, bringing 15,000 wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery on that day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 12, 2009, as “Wreaths Across America Day”;;

(2) honors the Wreaths Across America project, the Patriot Guard Riders, and all of the volunteers and donors involved in this worthy tradition; and

(3) recognizes the sacrifices our veterans, servicemembers, and their families have made, and continue to make, for our great Nation.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2787. Mr. SPECTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2786 submitted by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DODD, and Mr. HARKIN) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3590, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2787. Mr. SPECTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2786 submitted by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DODD, and Mr. HARKIN) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3590, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1738, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

(3) HEALTH CARE FRAUD PENALTIES.—Section 1347 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking “Whoever” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for any person, in connection with the delivery of or payment for health care benefits, items, or services, to”;

(B) by striking “executes, or attempts” and inserting “execute, or attempt”;

(C) in subsection (a)(2), as so designated, by striking “program,” and inserting “program.”; and

(D) in the matter following subsection (a)(2), as so designated, by striking “in connection with the delivery” and all that follows and inserting the following:

“(b) PENALTIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), whoever violates subsection (a)—

“(A) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both;

“(B) if the violation results in serious bodily injury (as defined in section 1365 of this

title), shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 20 years, or both; and

“(C) if the violation results in death, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any term of years or for life, or both.

“(2) MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCING.—In imposing a sentence under paragraph (1), if the violation of subsection (a) involves a loss of not less than \$100,000, the defendant shall be imprisoned for not less than 6 months.”.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills:

S. 760, to designate the Liberty Memorial at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Missouri, as the “National World War I Memorial”;

S. 1838, to establish a commission to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War;

S. 2097, to authorize the rededication of the District of Columbia War Memorial as a National and District of Columbia World War I Memorial to honor the sacrifices made by American veterans of World War I;

S. 2722, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of adding the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, in the State of Wyoming, as a unit of the National Park System;

S. 2726, to modify the boundary of the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes;

S. 2738, to authorize National Mall Liberty Fund D.C. to establish a memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia to honor free persons and slaves who fought for independence, liberty, and justice for all during the American Revolution;

H.R. 1849, to designate the Liberty Memorial at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Missouri, as the National World War I Memorial, to establish the World War I centennial commission to ensure a suitable observance of the centennial of World War I, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 3689, to provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. to establish a Vietnam Veterans Memorial visitor center, and for other purposes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate,